Appl. No.

10/829,638

Filed

April 22, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

By this response, Applicants are amending Claim 9. Claims 1–8 and 10–38 remain as originally filed.

- 1. (Original) An apparatus comprising:
- at least one wafer-processing chamber wherein an ozone-rich environment exists within the wafer-processing chamber;
- a rotator that creates a gap between a wafer and a wafer cassette, wherein the rotator is configured to rotate the wafer;
 - a sprayer; and
- a pulsating fluid source, the pulsating fluid source configured to pulse a solution through the sprayer into the ozone-rich environment while the wafer is rotating.
- 2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the wafer cassette remains stationary while the wafer is rotating.
- 3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the rotator rotates the wafer at a velocity of less than 100 rotations per minute (RPM).
 - 4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the solution is ozone rich.
- 5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the sprayer comprises a plurality of spray nozzles.
- 6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the pulsating fluid source is configured to pulse at approximately one pulse every two seconds.
- 7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the pulsating fluid source has a 50% duty cycle.
- 8. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the pulsating fluid source has a duty cycle that varies from 3% to 97%.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim [[9]] 1, wherein the wafer is located between the sprayer and the rotator.

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(Original) An apparatus for processing a wafer, the apparatus comprising:
a semiconductor processing chamber;

a rotator configured to rotate at least one wafer within the semiconductor processing chamber; and

a pulsating fluid source, the pulsating fluid source configured to pulse an ozone-rich solution into the semiconductor processing chamber more than once while the wafer is rotating within the semiconductor processing chamber.

- 11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the rotator comprises at least one rod that contacts an outside edge of the wafer.
- 12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein the at least one rod supports the wafer.
- 13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the semiconductor processing chamber is rotated by the rotator.
- 14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the pulsating fluid source further comprises a pump configured to pulse the ozone-rich solution.
- 15. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein the rotator is further configured to rotate the wafer at more than one speed.
- 16. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the temperature of the solution is between approximately 20°C and approximately 95°C.
 - 17. (Original) An apparatus comprising:
 - a rotating platform configured to rotate a workpiece; and
 - a pulsator configured to introduce multiple pulses of an ozone-rich solution onto the workpiece while the workpiece is rotating.
- 18. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the workpiece comprises a wafer.
- 19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the workpiece is rotated at a speed less than approximately 100 rotations per minute (RPM).
- 20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the pulsator has a 50% duty cycle.

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- 21. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein the pulsator has an 8% duty cycle.
- 22. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the pulsator comprises a pump.
- 23. (Original) An ozone shower system for cleaning a semiconductor wafer, the system comprising:
 - a process chamber configured to house a wafer;
 - a rotator within the process chamber, wherein said rotator is configured to rotate the wafer; and
 - a sprayer connected to an ozone-enriched fluid source, wherein the sprayer is configured to pulse the ozone-enriched fluid multiple times on the wafer during the rotation of the wafer.
- 24. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 23, wherein the rotator comprises at least one axle.
- 25. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 24, wherein the at least one axle contacts the outside edge of the wafer.
- 26. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 24, wherein the rotator comprises two axles.
- 27. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 23, wherein the sprayer comprises a plurality of spray nozzles.
- 28. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 23, wherein the ozone fluid is at a temperature between approximately 20° and approximately 95°C.
- 29. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 23, wherein the wafer is positioned between the rotator and the sprayer.
- 30. (Original) The ozone shower system of Claim 23, wherein the rotation of the wafer is caused in part by the pulsating ozone-enriched fluid.

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31. (Original) An apparatus for delivering ozone to multiple wafers, the apparatus comprising:

a means for rotating multiple wafers within a semiconductor processing chamber, and

a means for pulsating an ozone-rich solution multiple times onto the multiple wafers while the multiple wafers are being rotated.

- 32. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the means for rotating comprises at least one rod.
- 33. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the means for pulsating comprises a pump.
- 34. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the multiple wafers are located between the means for rotating and the means for pulsating.
- 35. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the semiconductor processing chamber comprises a wafer cassette.
- 36. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the means for rotating creates a gap between the multiple wafers and the wafer cassette.
- 37. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the semiconductor processing chamber remains stationary while the multiple wafers are being rotated.
- 38. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 31, wherein the means for rotating is configured to rotate the multiple wafers at multiple speeds.